

Principals' Moot.

New Zealand Principal's Federation: Wellington 24th March 2006.

Speech notes delivered by: Shane Ngatai (Co-President) Te Akatea Maori Principals Association.

Tena koutou Te whanau

Tena koutou

E Te Tumuaki, e Te Rangatira

E Pat tena koe ehoa

Tena Koe Uncle Tauri (go the Cains)

No reira, Tena Koutou Tena koutou Tena koutou katoa

Ko Ngaiterangi te Iwi

Ko Mataatua te waka

Ko Maunganui te Maunga

Ko Tauranga te Moana

Ko Ngai Tukai Rangi te Hapu

Ko Whareroa te Marae

Ko Taiaho te Tupuna

Ko Rawhaka Mutunga te Papa

Ko Shane Ngatai taku ingoa

The Kaupapa of this hui asks the question:

"Where are we heading?"

When I saw my time slot I thought:

The Grave yard shift with 15 minutes to present an overview of Te Akatea (Maori Principals Association) and an update on a research project made possible by a scholarship grant of \$5000 from NZPF and Multiserve Educational trust.

I thought thank goodness it takes longer than 15 minutes to dig a hole six foot under so I will be safe and know that I'm not heading to an early grave and for those of you who know me. You may be pleased that I only have 12 minutes left-

For those of you who are already asleep kei te pai

Te Akatea

Was established in the early nineties to provide a voice for Maori Leadership in education

Schools become members not individuals and membership is open to all Maori Principals with associate membership to aspiring principals and leaders.

Te Akatea practises a distributive leadership model within its own structure.

Te Akatea has two co- presidents. **Robyn Hata** deputy Principal of Te Wharekura o Rakaumangamanga in Huntly, and myself, Principal of Rhode Street School in Hamilton- we have a further seven executive members representing: main stream primary intermediate and secondary. Kura kaupapa, full emersion and rumaki

We are completely autonomist and are an incorporated society.

We are represented on the SSC, PRG, Teachers Council, NZEI Council, and various Ministry reference groups.

We are non- political but do provide a shared Maori perspective and at times commentate on issues facing or impacting on Maori in education.

Our next Annual Conference is in balmy Palmy in August From the 24th to the 26th at the Palmerston North Convention Centre.

Prof Mason Durie will open the conference as a key note speaker.

You are all most welcome to attend.

On reflection if we continue the analogy of the orchestra, I guess Te Akatea beats the drum and I like you am a groupie.

Research Award

The basic purpose of the award is to encourage and support research or projects that will develop practical assistance for schools and teachers, in developing knowledge and or class programmes of work aimed at excellence in learning for Maori students.

Over 80% of our Maori Students are enrolled in main stream schools yet more than 80% of our Maori teachers and leaders are in Kura kaupapa and full emersion.

With these two statistics in mind, Te Akatea wanted this research grant to focus on providing a resource for all schools not just Kura kaupapa to meet the needs of all Maori students.

Last year's recipient was Hoana Pearson, Tumuaki of Newton Central School Grey Lynn Auckland.

ERO commented in May 05

The board, Principal and staff together with the school community are committed to providing an inclusive bicultural and multicultural learning environment that celebrates and promotes the importance of **oral language** and **culture** as a foundation For students well being and learning.

Achievement information indicates that the majority of students. Particularly Maori students perform at or above national expectations in literacy and numeracy.

The principal has a coherent and clearly articulated philosophy focused on education as a means to achieve social justice.

Hoana will present her research paper at our annual conference and we will publish it on the NZPF web site

Theory without research is mere speculation: research without theory is merely data collection.

Hoana's topic is:

Partnership processes in a mainstream setting.

Her overall **aim** is to contribute to the transformation of institutional systems and culture in order to enhance achievement for Maori in mainstream settings.

Hoana's **specific objectives** are to:

1. Document and describe a model of governance partnership between Maori and the Bot in a mainstream setting.
2. Describe the process in developing and implementing the model.
3. Describe the impacts on leadership. Teaching and learning and potentially on achievement

How will you benefit?

This research will provide practical information for others wishing to pursue similar processes.

Hoana's model is based on her own school and what has happened since providing the opportunity for Maori and Pacifica to become more involved

through a shared partnership at all levels of the schools organisation.

She challenges the deficit thinking of some traditional teaching and institutional models and offers many practical ideas to collectively engage all cultures on a journey of dynamic learning.

Hoana asks several reflective questions in her research!

What does success mean and look like for Maori?

What impact does the philosophy/ belief/ culture of the principal have on teaching and learning?

How do relationships strengthen culture?

Te Akatea looks forward to reading Hoana's final paper and sharing her findings with the sectors.

Finally thank you, again to NZPF for providing this funding through Multi Serve and the opportunity to share with you today.

Uncle I see the sharks are staying at this hotel. Perhaps we could invite them to have lunch with us. I hear the oysters are off.

No rei ra tena kotau
Ka toa.